

**Quagga and Zebra Mussel
Infestation Prevention
Grant Program
(QZ Grant Program)**

2026 Grant Update

1. Non-presenters please mute audio and turn off video
2. If you have not yet submitted an RSVP, please email: MusselGrant@parks.ca.gov and provide your name and agency
3. QZ Grant documents, including this presentation are available at <http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZGrant>

**California State Parks
Division of Boating and
Waterways**



Welcome

**Presentation starting at
10:05**



QZ Grant Program



Unit Chief: Edward Hard, EPM I, Aquatic Invasive Species

Timothy Giles, Park and Recreation Specialist

Mike Rodriguez, Environmental Scientist

Brandy Vang, Environmental Services Intern

CDFW Liaison – Thomas Jensen, Senior
Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

2026 QZ Grant Update - AGENDA



Program Overview

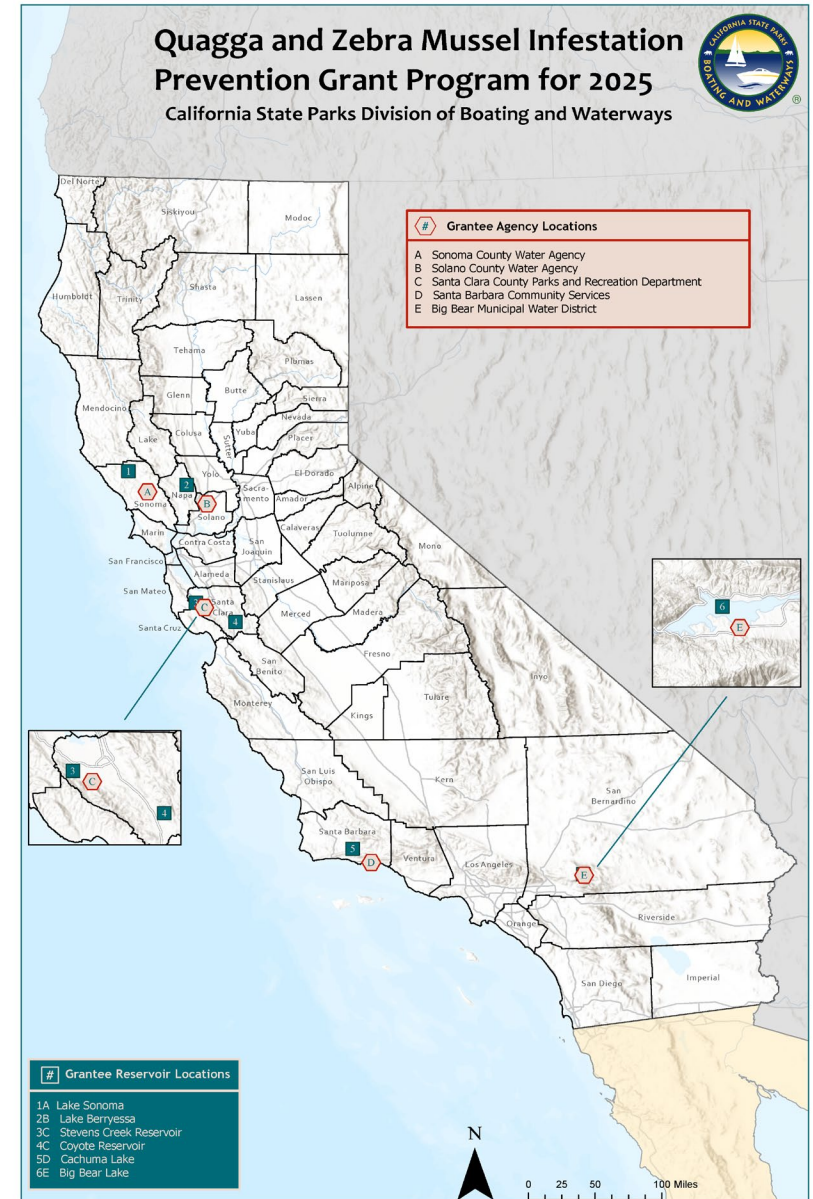
- Metrics
- History
- Updates
- Timeline
- Golden Mussel
- AB 149
- Website Resources
- Application Reminders
- Contacts



**Question time
will be offered
at the end of
this short
presentation.**

2025 QZ Grant Program Metrics

- 17 applications received
- 11 unique applicants
- 6 projects funded
- \$2M awarded





QZ Grant Program History

Investment since 2014



- 123 projects
- 71 unique reservoirs
- 45 unique agencies
- **\$28.8 Million invested**

Mussel Fee Sticker Outreach



Scan to request your sticker from DMV



2026 Mussel Fee Sticker



DBW's QZ Flyer

GET YOUR MUSSEL FEE STICKER

The "Mussel Fee Sticker" (also known as the Quagga Sticker) funds statewide quagga and zebra mussel prevention efforts. Recreational boat owners are required to purchase and display a current sticker if their boats will be used in fresh water. This includes inland waterways, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, wetlands and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Failure to properly display the sticker may result in denial of access or citation.

HOW TO GET A MUSSEL FEE STICKER:

1. Online at dmv.ca.gov/MusselFee, or in person at a DMV field office, or at your local auto club office such as AAA.
2. Pay \$16 fee (sticker valid for up to two years, depending on purchase date)
3. Properly display the Mussel Fee Sticker on your boat.



Scan the QR code to request your sticker

The current Mussel Fee Sticker must be displayed on the hull next to the current boat registration sticker. Paying the mussel fee does not entitle vessels to bypass quagga or zebra mussel inspections or fees that may be required by individual reservoir owners or managers.




For more information about a Mussel Fee Sticker, visit the DMV website at: dmv.ca.gov/MusselFee or call DMV at 1-916-657-8035.

For information on California's quagga and zebra mussel prevention efforts please contact the California State Parks' Division of Boating and Waterways at 1-888-326-2822 or visit dbw.parks.ca.gov/StopQZ.

2026 Grant Application Reminders



- ✓ No Overlapping Grants
- ✓ \$2M pending available funding
- ✓ Grant Agreement
 - ✓ Allowable costs associated with Consultant/Contractor work
 - ✓ Subcontract Review
 - ✓ Requirement for Watercraft Liability Insurance
 - ✓ Early Detection Mussel Monitoring
- ✓ Requirements Before Execution of the Grant Agreement
 - ✓ Contractor Certification Clause
 - ✓ Insurance Documentation
 - ✓ Signed Resolution (Please Use Provided Template)



Applicants can not apply for overlapping grant cycles for the same reservoir; they will need to reapply every other year.

This means that if a reservoir is currently covered by a two-year 2025 QZ Grant, that reservoir will not be considered for a QZ Grant until the 2027 solicitation.



2026 Timeline

- **March 9** - OLGA opened for applications
- **March 13** - Presentation
- **April 17** –Application deadline, 5 p.m. PDT
- **July** – Award decisions communicated
- **October** - 2-year grant term begins
- **October 2028** - Grant term expiration/
project completion and all funds expended

Golden Mussel





Golden Mussel

- Statutes and regulations are specific to quagga mussels (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) and zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*).
- The ability to grant or deny a complete application is based whether the applicant is trying to prevent infestation of QZ in its reservoir.
- Therefore, the QZ Grant Program cannot fund activities that discuss the golden mussel (*Limnoperna fortunei*) for the 2026 Grant Cycle.
- **Applications which discuss the golden mussel, may be disqualified during the interagency review process.**

Golden Mussel



**DON'T MOVE
A MUSSEL**

Clean, Drain, and Dry
to Protect California Waters

 **GOLDEN MUSSEL**

 **QUAGGA MUSSEL**

 **ZEBRA MUSSEL**

  www.wildlife.ca.gov/Invasives | 866-440-9530

The poster features a dark background with a dense field of mussels. On the right side, three circular callouts show close-ups of Golden, Quagga, and Zebra mussels, each with a label. The bottom left corner includes the California Department of Wildlife logo, a QR code, and the website and phone number.

- Golden Mussel work is not fundable by this grant
- New rack cards available, provide contact, quantity and reservoir(s) name:

MusselGrant@parks.ca.gov

Implementation of AB 149



- AB 149 chaptered on September 17, 2025
- Makes significant changes to the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Program
- Makes changes to the implementation to the Mussel Fee Sticker (MFS)
- A Technical Advisory Group (TAG) has been created and has met once so far in pursuit of establishing MFS changes.



This blue sticker is now sold by DMV; valid until Dec. 31, 2027

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program



QZ GRANT PROGRAM RESOURCES

Funding Opportunities for Reservoir Owners & Managers

QZ Grantee Resources

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Email us at QZGrant@parks.ca.gov

If you have questions about the Mussel Sticker, [visit our informational page here.](#)

GRANT STAFF

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GENERAL INQUIRIES
QZGrant@parks.ca.gov

GENERAL RESOURCES

[California Department of Fish & Wildlife](#)

[Grants & Loans](#)

[Clean & Green](#)

[CDFW Regional Scientists](#)

California water body authorities very early recognized the westward spread of mussel infestation via the Colorado River system and the potential harm to state waterways should our lakes and reservoirs be invaded. To help prevent California waterways from infestation, DBW was authorized to manage the collection and use of the quagga and zebra mussel infestation prevention fees from California fresh water boaters.

CLICK HERE to Subscribe to the QZ Grant Program Notifications

Funding Opportunities for Reservoir Owners & Managers

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- [2024 QZ Grant Solicitation \(Press Release\)](#)
- [2024 Solicitation Notice](#)
- [2024 QZ Grant Presentation Notice and Agenda](#)
- QZ Grant Program Notifications Sent
 - [Grant Announcement Notice, Sent 3/4/2024](#)
 - [Grant Solicitation Notice and Presentation, Sent 3/26/2024](#)

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- [QZ Grant Guidelines 2024](#)
- For New Applicants: [QZ Grant Program Overview Video](#)
- [OLGA Step-By-Step Instructions](#)
- [Link to Online Grant Application \(OLGA\)](#)
- [OLGA Instructional Video](#)
- [Scope of Work and Table of Deliverables](#)
 - [Tier 1: Planning/Assessment Project Narrative Instructions --OR--](#)
 - [Tier 2: Implementation Project Narrative Instructions](#)
- [Resolution/Letter of Approval Template](#)
 - [Sample Owner/Manager's Authority Information](#)

REFERENCE MATERIALS

- [Tier 1 and Tier 2 Project Comparison](#)
- [QZ Grant Review and Scoring Questions](#)
- [If Awarded: Example of Early-Detection Mussel Monitoring Requirements for Grantees](#)

GRANT STATUS BY FISCAL YEAR



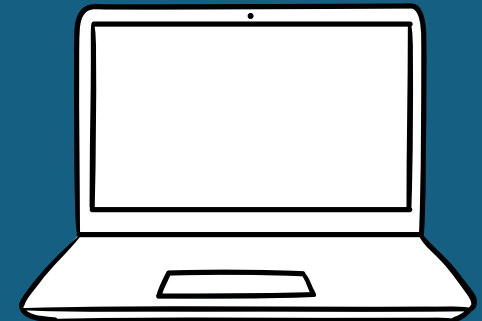
Website Resources

- <http://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZGrant>
- Grant announcements
- Applications materials
- Reference materials
- Contact information
- Links to CDFW:
- QZ information
- CDFW Regional Scientist contact list



Application Reminders

- ✓ Start your application sooner than later!
- ✓ Save often to avoid losing any work
- ✓ Refer to the QZ Grant webpage or OLGA for updated templates and OLGA instructions
- ✓ Use updated templates
- ✓ Applicants must ensure all required documents are uploaded to OLGA by the deadline
- ✓ Answer and include all the information in each section even if it is mentioned somewhere else in the application
- ✓ Submit your application by the deadline:
April 17, 5:00 p.m. PDT



Quagga and Zebra Mussel Infestation Prevention Grant Program

Contact Information

DBW's QZ Grant Program

- ▶ MusselGrant@parks.ca.gov
- ▶ <https://dbw.parks.ca.gov/QZGrant>
- ▶ 888-326-2822

CDFW Invasive Species Program

- ▶ Invasives@wildlife.ca.gov
- ▶ 866-440-9530

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Thanks!